



Illustration - Paddy Wynder

For the People of Modbury & Brownston

Volume 25, Issue 321 - December 2025

Modbury Remembers

Remembrance Sunday this year was on Sunday 9 November. There was a special flag hoist at Palm Cross Green and this year Ade Atkinson was in charge of proceedings as Dave West MBE, the Branch Chairman, was in London representing the RBL Branch at the Cenotaph in London. It was good to see so many young people at the service which started at 10am with Curate Rev. Oli Long officiating. During the first hymn, "Eternal Father", the Union Flag, RBL Standard and other flags and wreaths were processed to the high altar. During the last hymn, these were collected ready to process to the East Gate where memorial crosses, one for each man on the memorial, were placed before everyone mustered at the War Memorial for the two-minute silence at 11am.



A similar event happened at 10:55-11:05am on Armistice Day.

David Scott



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Fantastic New Opportunity for Green-Fingered Residents

And those who would like to be...

The Modbury Town Improvement Charity is renting half an allotment at Church Lane and has been successful in obtaining a grant for a polytunnel. This is to enable the planters around the town to be planted sustainably, reducing cost and waste - the poly tunnel can be used for growing, overwintering and propagating plants.

Colin Whybrow has been the stalwart behind the planting regime in the town for many years, but is hanging up his gardening gloves. With just a small band of helpers, Colin has been responsible for planting up all the planters for spring and summer every year. He has steadfastly watered and nurtured them during the long, hot, dry summers we have had in the past couple of years. On behalf of the Town, we thank Colin, and his team for all that they have done to make Modbury look so beautiful.

The Modbury Town Improvement Charity has been set up to do just what the title says, it has a programme of work to ensure that the town always looks its best for residents and visitors to the town and retains that wonderful wow factor people get when they drive through. To date, in conjunction with the town traders and Modbury Parish Council, they have provided the flag poles and flags for the traders, they have purchased new planters and plants and compost for many of the town planters. This is complemented by planters provided by individual residents and traders. The charity helps to organise Modbury's Marvellous Makeover (which incorporates Marigolds Day), and commissioned John Ashton to paint the beautiful mural in Poundwell Meadow car park. They have also provided bunting for the town, so it looks welcoming throughout the summer months.

The charity is always open to ideas from residents, but more than that, we need those ideas to come to fruition by the many amazing volunteers who have vision, insight and ability to put ideas into action.

Which brings us back to the allotment: -

We need your help. we need volunteers to (A) co-ordinate and oversee the project and (B) act as worker bees to help with planting, nurturing, growing and propagating and watering in the polytunnel and around the town.

We hope also to introduce workshops to help people learn more about sustainable planting, growing seeds and taking cuttings.

Exciting times for Modbury.

Some of the wonderful benefits of gardening:-

- Engaging with nature can reduce stress and anxiety levels.
- The act of nurturing plants fosters a sense of purpose and accomplishment.
- Spending time outdoors increases exposure to sunlight, improving vitamin D levels.
- Gardening can enhance social connections through community gardens or group activities.

For more information, or to volunteer, please call Sarah on 07794 662903

Sarah Wyatt

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The copy date for the January 2026 Modbury Messenger is 5th December



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Modbury Lunch Club Celebrates Its 30th Anniversary

On Friday 31st October, Modbury Lunch Club celebrated its 30th Anniversary. In 1995, Veronica McPherson and Gill Miller-Williams set up the Club, run by volunteers, to provide a monthly lunch and social get together for retired people in Modbury. Carole James joined the team of volunteers a few months after it started. Now, alongside Marlene Winch, Carole is still calmly cooking delicious home-made lunches for the club.



I am a relatively new member of the team of volunteers and enjoy being part of the cheery atmosphere as tables are set, meals are created and members arrive, some with the support of volunteer drivers. The chatter, the sharing and the eating then begin, with the support of Chris Hodgson, who is master of ceremonies and runs an enthusiastic raffle. Those attending speak of enjoying the friendly, relaxed atmosphere and the chance to have a tasty meal cooked for them.



Members of the Lunch Club pay £5, at present, for their lunch and the Club receives occasional welcome additional funding from Modbury Parish Council and from other community events such as May Fair. The Club is also grateful for the hard work and support of Pauline Ryder at the Memorial Hall who puts up the tables and lays them each month. Pauline also baked some wonderful cupcakes for the 30th Anniversary Celebration.

Lunch Club can cater for about 30 diners and currently has about 25

members, so if you are retired and live in Modbury Parish or know of someone who might enjoy a sociable lunch, do contact Kim Wells (on 01548 830594) for more information. Lunch Club meets on the last Friday of the month for most months of the year.



The Club is also looking for more volunteer drivers to bring people to the Memorial Hall, for their lunch. Again, phone Kim on the above number if you can offer to help in this way.

Alison Wood

COUNCILLOR BERNARD TAYLOR MEETS PRINCESS ANNE

Bernard Taylor, our South Hams District Councillor for Charterlands Ward, who lives in Modbury, recently met Princess Anne at LandWorks, Dartington.

LandWorks is an award-winning charity which is reducing reoffending by supporting and training people who are leaving prison or at risk of going to prison. Their training facilities at Dartington include include a sustainably operated market garden, a woodwork shop, and a pottery studio



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MODBURY MEMORIAL HALL
EYES DOWN - 7.30PM**

As Seen In Modbury



The Poplar Hawk Moth is the commonest of the UK's Hawk Moths. Widespread from May to September, they have a wingspan of 7-10cm. Their caterpillars dine on poplars, willows and aspen then pupate underground over winter before emerging in the early summer. The moths don't eat at all during their short adult life, they exist on fat reserves. When alarmed they flash brick red patches on their underwings.



The one pictured was caught in the Modwag moth trap in Modbury in August. Over the summer, we set the trap several times in different areas and caught hundreds of moths, representing more than fifty different identifiable

species. There are around 2500 moth species in the UK, so we have plenty more to find. If you would like to use the moth trap next year, to help us find out more about the moths in Modbury, please contact cmrathbone@outlook.com. If you would like to see more wildlife pictures taken in Modbury, follow us on Instagram @modwag2025 and tag us in to share your own images.

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Modbury's QUINTESSENTIAL QUIZ Night

Saturday 17th January 2026

Join us for Pub Quiz Night, a night of trivia and fun, in aid of Luna's Fund!

Get your Teams together
(maximum teams of 6.)

Upstairs in the White Hart Function Room

Tickets available at the Post Office
or via QR Code.

*Tickets £10pp
includes a hot pasty.*

**Pig Race Night Raises £2,600 for St Luke's
"Thank you, Modbury"**



Pig mania returned to the Memorial Hall on Friday 17th October. For regulars, this mad cap evening of absolute fun and foolishness was a welcome return. For the uninitiated, who didn't know quite what to expect, and wondered if it involved real pigs, they were in for a treat.

The more you try to describe what Pig Race Night is all about, the more improbable it all sounds. For starters it involves battery-powered fluffy pink pigs. The same pigs are entered in every race but with different numbers and different names given to them by the sponsors of each race. Huge thanks to our race sponsors.

Each table of race goers appoints a bookies' runner to take their bets to the tote. That ensures everyone is literally invested in the outcome of each race.

The last race of the evening takes a slightly different tack. Each of the pigs are auctioned before the race by a hysterically funny send up of the typical livestock market auctioneer. Thanks again to all those who bid for their pigs knowing full well they would not be taking them home. Of the auction total, 30% goes to the race winner with the rest being donated to St Luke's. The lucky last race winner was Modbury's very own miniature military man, Gerry McAllister, who, having already successfully bid for a pig in the auction, generously donated his winnings back to St Luke's. Gerry, we salute you.



Ady shares a joke with a race goer before the pigs line up for the next race

A share of the tote plus proceeds from ticket sales, bottle draws, bar takings and raffle (grateful thanks to everyone who donated prizes) all go to St Lukes. That combined effort was how the good people of Modbury were able to raise an astonishing £2,600 for the hospice.

Why does this improbable idea work so well? It's all down to the zany, hillbilly personality of organiser Ady Byng who's sheer non-stop energy and anything-for-a laugh antics keep the whole show going from beginning to end. It really is a laugh-out-loud evening of fun and the perfect antidote to all the doomscrolling we get bombarded with from seemingly every direction.

Well done, Modbury. You did us proud. It would not have been possible without all the organisation by the Modbury Friends of St Luke's team, the many volunteers who helped set up and run the event, race sponsors and prize donors. You helped make it a success on every level. Thank you all.

Modbury Friends of St Luke's, Fundraising Committee

MARGARET WOODS

A big thank you to everyone who attended, and contributed to, Margaret's thanksgiving service on Tuesday 4th November.

A special thanks to Neil, Oli, Gill and the catering team.

Adrian



Committee Treasurer, Joan Stanton with St Luke's Wayne Marshall

World Subbuteo Event at the White Hart

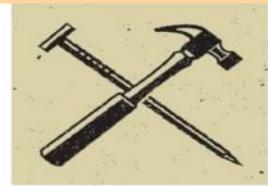
South Devon Subbuteo hosted a WASPA event. The 'World Amateur Subbuteo Players Association' host tournaments all around the world. We had players from Yorkshire and Bristol attending to take on a few of our club members.



There were trophies for the winners and runners up in both championship and plater competitions.

This really was a unique event that our community would have never seen the likes of before and stands as the first ever WASPA event held anywhere in Devon! Beautiful Modbury was the destination for these players, and I was excited to welcome them.

Simon Francis



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MODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Modbury Parish Council Office, 1 Modbury Court, PL21 0QR
Tel: 07467134225 email parishclerk@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Your Councillors are:

Bill Cole	01548 830913	
Chris Field	07836 592854	chrisfield@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Barbara Price (Chair)	07739752095	barbaraprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Tony Price	07801837129	tonyprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Phil Smith (Vice Chair)	07759282404	philsmith@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Dave Trigger	07808742372	davetrigger@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Ann Turner	01548830606	annturner@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sarah Wyatt	07794 662903	sarahwyatt@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

How can we help you? Councillors run drop-in surgeries on Sat. 10:00 - 11:00 am in the Parish Office at 1 Modbury Court. The Parish Clerk is in the Parish Council office on Tues & Wed, 10:30 am – 5:00pm. Call into the office, phone, email or come along to our meetings at 7:00 pm in the Pavilion, QEII Recreation Ground on the first Tuesday of every month and speak in the public forum.

Devon County Councillor (Salcombe Division):	Louise Wainwright	Tel: 07908 525663 louise.wainwright@devon.gov.uk
South Hams District Councillor (Charterlands Ward):	Bernard Taylor	Tel: 01548 830844 Cllr.Bernard.Taylor@southhams.gov.uk

Modbury Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 4th November 2025, 7:00pm



MODBURY
PARISH COUNCIL

Present were seven councillors, Cllr Bernard Taylor (South Hams DC, and two members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllr Louise Wainwright (Devon CC).

Report from Louise Wainwright, Devon County Councillor by email

- LW's report is available for download from the MPC website: <https://modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings/?committee=full-council&view=all>

Report from Bernard Taylor, SHDC Councillor

- Bernard was thanked by MPC for organising replacement litter bins in Church Street
- Most councillors' time is being taken over by the ongoing Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), which is still at the consultation phase.
- There are now Community Warm Homes grants available via SHDC
- Bernard was asked about street sweeping, given the leaves on the roads at this time of year leading to blocked drains, etc. There is an issue with parked cars over drains; it was pointed out that with warning MPC could organise clear roads. Bernard will look into extra street sweeping in Modbury.

It was announced that Cllr Richard Foss has stepped down from MPC due to his personal circumstances.

Meeting with DCC

This was a 3 hour meeting with Louise Wainwright and Adam Keay of DCC Highways and these are the points raised:

- The Road Warden and P3 (Paths) agreements were considered at some length and further enquiries are being undertaken to strengthen our involvement in both.
- In general, MPC struggle to get new volunteers; we will be looking at possible incentive schemes.
- Drainage and flooding is a priority – MPC is actively seeking greater frequency of drainage clearance.
- Road safety was discussed, especially with regard to speed limits, better street lighting, and re-siting of the Church Street pedestrian crossing. Budget is an issue with all these matters, but feasibility studies may be considered.
- Minor roads are deteriorating faster than we can resolve, and DCC will consider further help.
- MPC need better notice of road closures by utility companies.
- A subsequent email from Adam Keay states that gully clearing is now only annual for priority areas and every three years for other roads.

A full report of the meeting is at modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings

Finance

- Cllr Chris Field agreed to join the Finance Committee
- Subsequent to this meeting Cllr Tony Price was elected as chair of the Finance Committee.

Health & Safety

- There has recently been an accident in the Champernowne play park and action has been taken to highlight the protruding beam which was the cause.
- The safety fence in the Memorial Hall play park will be renewed in late November.

Planning

- Bloor Homes have put in a revised planning application for further development at Palm Cross. MPC has updated and submitted a revised response. The Planning Committee response was approved and will be found online on the SHDC planning portal as well as on modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 2nd December 2025 @7pm

Tony Price

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walk&talk

Walks will be on 2nd, 9th and 16th December.

Please note there will be no walks on the 23rd or the 30th December.

The first walk of 2026 will be on Tuesday 6th January.

The venue and travel arrangements for each of the walks will be discussed at the previous week's walk and decided according to the weather forecast for the walk day.

Walk leader contact details:-

Sue Rogers 01548 831289

Jean Wright 01548 810029

Sue Rogers



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before Wednesday 17th December please

All proceeds in aid of St George's Church

Modbury Branch Royal British Legion



The next Meeting of the Modbury and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will be a short Business Meeting followed by a social gathering for an evening meal in the Exeter Inn on Friday 12th December.

The menu is being arranged by Duncan Squires, the RBL Social Rep. (07889 825986), so please contact him.

David Scott

St Monica's Roman Catholic Church, Modbury

No weekly mass at present

St Austin's Priory Roman Catholic Church, Cadleigh

Mass weekly at 11:30 am
on Sunday

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KIDS' CHURCH - Kids' Church meets in Modbury Primary School. Parents, please drop off your Explorers (age 9+) and Discoverers (age 6-8) at the school from 9:15am where they will be met by one of the leaders. After Kids' Church, the youngsters will be taken to St. George's to be with their parents at the end of the service. Climbers (age 0-5) will remain in St. George's, meeting their leader to be taken to the Lower Vestry. If you have any questions regarding Kids' Church, please contact Sara Chapman on s.chapman@modburyteam.org.

For St George's Parish enquiries contact Mrs Gill West, Churchwarden 07849253605

	Service	Service Leader
December 7th	Holy Communion and Kids' Church 9.30 am	Rev. Oli Long
December 14th	Holy Communion (BCP) 8.00 am All-Age Christingle Service 9.30 am Rooted - Contemporary Carol Service. 6.00 pm	Rev. Oli Long Rev. Oli Long Rev. Oli Long
December 21st	Carol Service - Bible Readings and Carols with singing led by a joint choir from across the Mission Community 6.00 pm	Rev. Oli Long
December 24th Christmas Eve	Nativity Service 4.00 pm Holy Communion 11.00 pm	Rev. Oli Long Rev. Simon Franklin
December 25th Christmas Day	Family Holy Communion 10.00 am	Rev. John Elliott
December 28th	Team Service with Holy Communion 10.30 am	Rev. Oli Long

Christian Comment: How Do You Prepare for Christmas

How do you prepare for Christmas? Perhaps you love the comfort of the tradition; you decorate in the same way, eat the same dishes, give and expect the same gifts - the latest Grisham...socks? Perhaps you love the variety of gifts on offer, perusing the magazines, observing the latest fashions and tastes?

Do you make sure that your delivery slot is booked for the food, or head to the supermarket early to try and miss the crowds (although it seems to be busy), pile the teetering trolley high with staples and delectables for what is actually only two days?

Perhaps Christmas passes you by as a matter of course and actually, your preparation is to try and avoid the hustle and bustle.

Preparation is an inescapable part of this season and the Christian faith treats it as such. A time to consciously prepare our hearts, minds and lifestyles in the light of the promise of the return of Jesus Christ and a season to bring the reasons for his first coming into our present reality.

We prepare for Christmas in these few weeks, but the scriptures tell of how the Living God made more intricate plans for an arrival into our world, generations in the making. Scholars know that 700 years before Christ's birth a prophet wrote:

'Behold, the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and she will name Him Immanuel.'

Our plans reveal our personalities and priorities.

Have you ever considered how the plans of God to come to us as a human reveal something of His heart, His personality? That He is not distant, nor cold and judgmental. The lengths that He went to in preparation and completion of His plan. That He is so committed to this world and your life that He seeks to redeem everything you have ever regretted.

In your preparation, why not join us for more discussion on a Thursday morning through December at St George's, Modbury? Or join us at any Sunday service and the upcoming Christmas services through the season?

Rev. Oli Long

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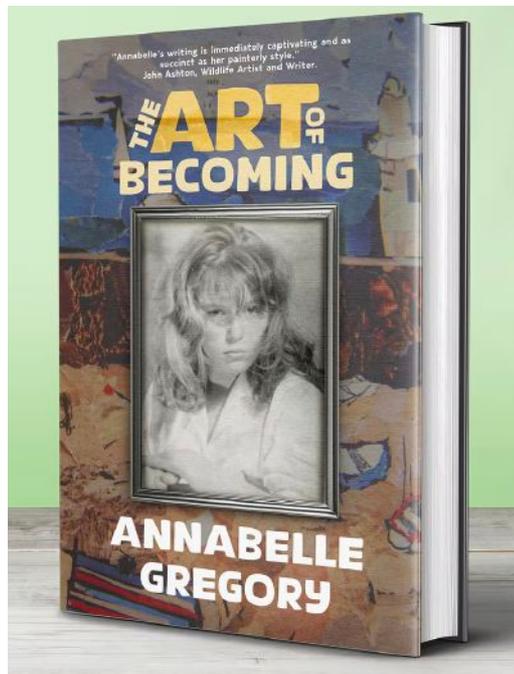
LAUNCH OF "THE ART OF BECOMING": A Memoir by ANNABELLE GREGORY

On Friday 14th November, The Brownston Gallery welcomed friends of Annabelle to the formal launch of her book entitled "The Art of Becoming". The room was filled with people Annabelle had invited, plus family members, and Modbury residents. Guests admired a selection of Annabelle's paintings and could have a copy of her book signed. Fiona Bennett gave a short speech explaining how she spent six months voice-recording Annabelle's memories and then helped Annabelle formulate the Memoir and source a publisher. She read from one of the chapters which describes how Annabelle's husband was asked to cater for a party at Madame Tussauds for Liberace, and they both attended as guests.

For those new to Modbury, Annabelle ran The Bistro (now The Curator) on Church Street from 1999 until 2021, when Covid restrictions forced her to close.

For 60 years, she has been an exhibited artist. This memoir follows her life; each chapter is illustrated with a photograph which relates to the content of the chapter, including several photographs of her paintings.

The book begins with her childhood in south London at the end of World War II, covers a spell when the family moved to Margate, and the time after, when the family were split up and she lived with her grandmother, before the family were offered a Council property large enough for Annabelle to live with her parents and two sisters.



Annabelle modelling in adverts as a young woman

In her teens and into her twenties, she was a model in London, this was the 1960s and 1970s when fashion was changing; it was the time of flower power, the mini-skirt and hot-pants. At the launch, she exhibited some adverts she modelled for and newspaper articles. At the event, she said how her Mother commented she kept seeing her face everywhere.

In London, she met and subsequently married Barry when she was just 20 years old. Later, together, they owned and managed various nightclubs in Soho (could be a very lively chapter!). Together, they had two sons (Marcus and Wayne) and a daughter, Sacha. They lived in and around the Chelsea area of London.



As the children grew up, they moved out of London, briefly south and then north to Oxfordshire, where for 20 years they ran a successful antiques business and were highly respected (perhaps this chapter name drops as to who their clients were!).

Why did they move to Modbury after the high life of London and the sophistication of Oxford in the late 1990s? By now, both sons had left home and Sacha was being treated at the John Radcliffe hospital for a brain tumour. So, Barry periodically escaped down to Devon to help a close friend renovate the Lavender House Hotel in Ashburton.

Annabelle came with him one day and the rest is history, but you will need to read the book. They fell in love with Devon and in 1998 moved down with Sacha, whose care was transferred to Derriford. The tumour was inoperable and she died in the care of St Luke's Hospice in Plymstock.

cont on p.13

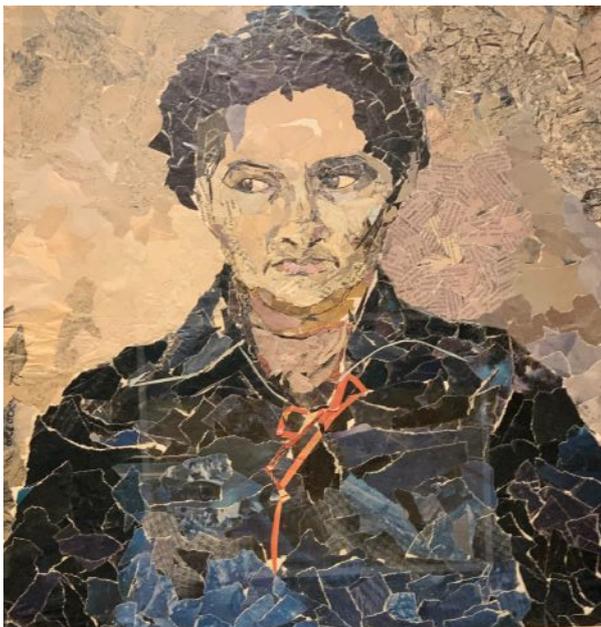


At the book launch at the Brownston Gallery

The copy date for the January 2026 Modbury Messenger is 5th December



A couple of Annabelle's paintings



So, Barry and Annabelle started a new life in Modbury, as a couple, in 1999 running a Bistro. The building had three floors and outbuildings. Annabelle quickly converted an area to an art studio and on occasions exhibited her work in the Bistro.

In 2014, Barry died of a heart attack, and Annabelle bravely continued the Bistro with the help of, in particular, Mike Roffe and other friends. It became more of a wine bar, but she continued cooking. The Bistro contributed hugely to the social life of Modbury. I know she had a session paring the stems of little Christmas trees so they would fit the holders above the shops in time for the Christmas Lights Parade.

After selling the Bistro, Annabelle moved to Churchstow, where she again created a studio for her art; she returns to Modbury for events and is greeted warmly by friends and former customers.

Annabelle is giving all profits from the sale of the book to the Brain Tumour Trust in memory of her daughter.

- There will be a stock of the book (hardback) at The Brownston Gallery @ £20 for the foreseeable future.
- It is available on Amazon:- Paperback @ £13.95 or e-book @ £4.99.
- The book is available from any bookshop after 1st December - you may have to order a copy - these will be hardback and will cost £24.95.
- Finally, hardback, signed copies will be available from the website of Winter & Drew (the publisher). They will cost £20 + p&p. This is the link to the page on their website:

<https://winteranddrew.com/product/the-art-of-becoming/>

There is more information on Annabelle's website, which has images of her art and Tv commercials.

<https://www.annabellegregory.com/>

Ira Young

Anna
Plymouth & South Hams

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At the book launch at the Brownston Gallery

Modbury and South Hams Creative Writing Group



The Modbury and South Hams Creative Writing Group meet every month to read and discuss our work.

Below is a submission which one of our members brought to our last meeting. The theme was 'Something Seasonal'. Ann's poem below was inspired not just by the season, but by one of her pieces of art.

We are keen to welcome new members, so if you enjoy creative writing, why not join us. We meet usually on the first Saturday of the month at the Queen Elizabeth II Pavilion in Modbury at 10.00am.

www.facebook.com/modburyc creativewritinggroup . Or call 07767 393802.

Where Shadow Bats Fly

Night skies cast their wispy nets,
to catch tangling whispered dreams.
They clutch to capture shadow bats,
with nothing as it seems.
Spider weaves imaginary web
patterns shape and shift,
words are charcoal fragments,
that flutter, swirl, and drift.

Moth mutters into dream-deaf ears
Moon turns a blank blind eye.
Winged creatures haunt this night,
through darkling-smothered sky.
Fragile light dissolves the black.
Slumbered stories melt away,
and little is remembered,
at the turning of the day.

Dreams blur in black and white.
They're a theatre of illusion,
where thoughts remain elusive
trapped deep inside confusion.
Dreams rarely show the answers,
there are no reasons why.
The future is a dusky trap,
where the shadow bats will fly.

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Holbeton Film Club



December's film is **Paddington in Peru** (certificate PG). When Paddington discovers his beloved aunt has gone missing from the Home for Retired Bears, he and the Brown family head to the jungles of Peru to find her. They soon stumble across a legendary treasure as they make their way through the rainforests of the Amazon.

This is screening on **Friday 12th December 2025** in Holbeton Village Hall. Doors open 7:00 pm. The programme starts at 7:30 pm. Tickets on the door are still only £4 for adults and £2 for children under 12 (card or cash).

Ice creams on sale for £1.

Our programme continues with:

Mr Burton, 12A
The Penguin Lessons, 12A
Juror #2, 12A
Wicked, PG

Saturday 10th January 2026
Friday 20th February (*not the usual day in the month*)
Saturday 14th March
Friday 10th April

01752 830274, harryluson@gmail.com <https://holbetonfilmclub.com/>

Harry Baumer



From a Celebrant's Perspective:

Direct Cremation

A direct cremation is a simple and dignified process in which your loved one is taken directly to the crematorium for a brief, respectful committal conducted by your funeral director. This may be a quiet moment with just the funeral director, or it may include a small group of close family and friends.

This approach has opened the door to more personal and flexible Memorial Services or Celebrations of Life. These gatherings can be held at a time and place that truly reflects your loved one's personality, values, and favourite places - whether that be a place of worship, a treasured venue, a local pub, a garden, the beach, on the moors, or out at sea.

The ceremony can be entirely focused on sharing their life story through music, readings, photos, videos, and memories, and it may also include the scattering of ashes.

No matter the style, be it heartfelt, humorous, traditional, or wonderfully unique - every ceremony is conducted with dignity, respect, and care. As a celebrant, I feel privileged to help families create a ceremony that honours their loved one's life with compassion and meaning, while also offering support and guidance as they say their final goodbyes.

My role is to meet with the people closest to your loved one, gather the memories and stories that made them who they were, and weave everything together into a beautifully written ceremony script. I can assist with music and reading selections, and I am happy to write personalised poems or pieces of prose that reflect hobbies, passions, or character. I can also support you in arranging the perfect venue.

Details about my fees can be found on my website:

www.circlecelebrancy.co.uk
circlecelebrantsarah@gmail.com

**Or you can contact me directly:
07794 662903**





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In addition, I offer a **free** service for anyone who would like to discuss their own wishes for their Celebration of Life. Many people find it reassuring and even uplifting to talk through their thoughts with someone who is independent and understanding. Together, we can explore ideas and, if you wish, make a plan, whether general or detailed to help support your loved ones in the future. I'm always happy to sit down over a cup of tea or coffee to discuss the options available and help you navigate the choices when the time comes.

Sarah Wyatt

The copy date for the January 2026 Modbury Messenger is 5th December

TONY GODDARD BOOKS

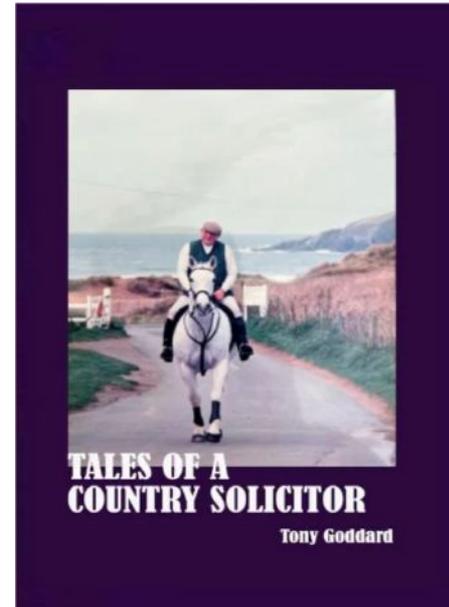
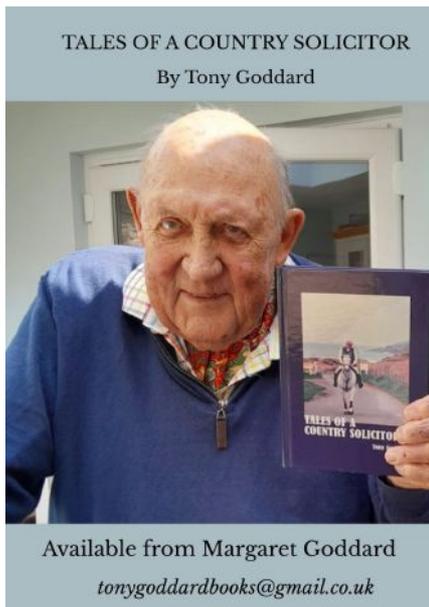
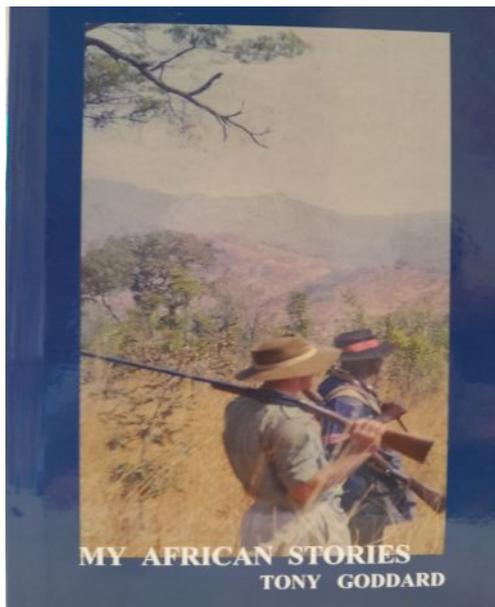
Tony Goddard, resident of Modbury until his death earlier this year, wrote two books during his interesting and varied life.

The first one, "My African Stories", tells about his hilarious adventures as a young man in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) between 1962 and 1965 at the end of the colonial era. As the District Officer, he was responsible for a large area adjoining the Luangwa Game Reserve. His adventures include being charged by a lioness and chased up a tree by a rhino. In his final year, he transferred to the Ministry of Justice and operated as a Stipendiary Magistrate. The cases he dealt with provide some of the most amusing stories in the book.

Tony's second book, "Tales of a Country Solicitor", tells how Tony and his young wife returned from Africa and moved to the South Hams where Tony joined a Solicitors' Practice. The book describes how he integrated into the community and contains a host of splendid stories based on his experiences.

Each books cost £12.50 and both are available to purchase from tonygoddardbooks@gmail.com

Margaret Goddard



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Modbury History Society

The next meeting of Modbury History Society will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 9th December when Professor James Clark will talk about 'The Dissolution of the Monasteries in South Devon'. The society will next meet on 10th March 2026.

The History Society meets at the MARS Pavilion, Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Ground in Chatwell Lane, Modbury PL21 0FS where there is ample parking. The current series of eight lectures started in September. Membership of the society is £20 per annum, but guests are welcome to attend individual meetings for a fee of £5.

If you have any photos of MODBURY at CHRISTMAS time in previous years, then please contact me at the email address below.

Please look at the Modbury Heritage website, which is a comprehensive database with a wealth of information about the town including historic photographs, a walking guide and parish records of use to family historians.

www.modbury-heritage.co.uk

For further information please contact:

rosiejaneparker@gmail.com

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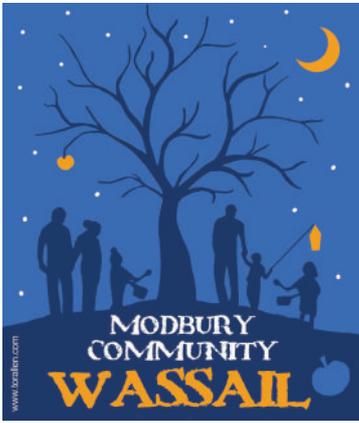
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Hold The Date – WASSAIL 2026 will be on Saturday 24th January

As soon as you open your new kitchen calendar, be sure to make one of your first entries the Modbury Community Wassail. We welcome wassailers old and new to what is usually the first community event in the Modbury calendar.

Held early in the evening, in a candle-lit Millennium Meadow, the Wassail is part of a long tradition in Devon and increasingly elsewhere. We sing traditional old English and Devon carols in this deep part of

winter and perform the ceremony of blessing the orchard's trees for a good crop of apples in the season to come. It certainly worked last year as we had a remarkable harvest that generated so much juice on Apple Day that we ran out of containers to keep it in.

That same juice will be mulled and provided free of charge to all wassailers along with hot dogs to help warm up a January night. Wassail is a real community and family event and we welcome children and adults of all ages. If you want to look like a seasoned wassailer, start thinking about how you might create a wassail hat by decorating it with eclectic knick knacks and things foraged from the hedgerow. Feathers, fern leaves, berry-laden twigs and trails of ivy often create the right look but the style is up to you. Anything goes.

Wassail is organised by the Modbury Community Orchard Group. We look forward to welcoming you in the new year. More details in the January Messenger.

Colin Whybrow
Community Orchard Group

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13	White Ensign	RPLATE	1932 nd sub	Battle of the River Plate 1939
14	Union Flag	BOSNIA	192 nd sub5Ans	End of the Bosnia War 1995
18	Union Flag	IRAQ	2013 rd subAns	End of the Iraq War 2011
28	Union Flag	AFGH1 st subN	2014Ans	End of the Afghanistan War 2014



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Full details:
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info@modburytennisclub.uk
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Tel: 07467 134225

email: parishclerk@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Jane Bullen



MODBURY MESSENGER

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1/8 page	45mm x 65mm	£30	£26	£16	£192
1/4 page	90mm x 130mm	£60	£50	£30	£360
1/2 page	130mm x 180mm	£108	£86	£50	£600
1 page	180mm x 250mm	£192	£148	£80	£960

The Modbury Messenger is an all colour publication, no preferential rates for black & white advertisements.

To advertise in the Modbury Messenger, contact the Editor, Lynne Barnes, via email on modburymessengercic@gmail.com with details of the size of the advert and how many months you wish to advertise for.

Modbury Messenger January 2026

The copy date for the January 2026 Modbury Messenger is **5th December** Please email all articles, notices of events and paid advertisements to modburymessengercic@gmail.com.

The Modbury Messenger is published by Modbury Messenger CIC and is printed by ESP Print. The views expressed in the Messenger do not necessarily represent those of Modbury Messenger CIC.

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Persons submitting entries with art or photographs not drawn or taken by themselves must confirm they have obtained copyright permission, or agree to pay any copyright fine which is subsequently raised

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Modbury Messenger CIC is a Community Interest Company and as such is registered by the Registrar of Companies for England & Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland. A Community Interest Company is a special type of not-for-profit limited company which exists to benefit the community. The purpose of Modbury Messenger CIC is to disseminate information about events, notices and articles of interest to the people of Modbury and it does this by publishing the Modbury Messenger, a printed newsletter, every month with 1000 copies delivered to homes and businesses within the Parish of Modbury. An online copy of the Modbury Messenger is available to neighbouring communities, advertised via social media and on our website modburymessengercic.co.uk.

Advertisers are charged a fee for advertising in the Modbury Messenger and this covers the cost of producing the Modbury Messenger. The Board of Directors, Company Secretary, Editor, Proofreaders and Distributors are all volunteers.

Directors of Modbury Messenger CIC: Diana Lynne Barnes & Bernard Taylor.

Company Secretary: George Rosevear FCIS.

Editorial Committee: John Bower, Lynne Barnes, Ira Young.

Modbury Messenger CIC has produced the Modbury Messenger as an independent CIC since September 2018. Previously, it was published by Modbury Parish Council.

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